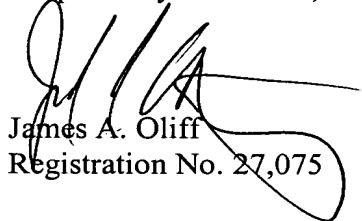


**REMARKS**

Claims 1-43 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 3-5, 7, 9-12, 15, 18, 21, 23, 25-28, 30-31, 33, 40-41 and 43 are amended.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



James A. Oliff  
Registration No. 27,075

Joel S. Armstrong  
Registration No. 36,430

JAO:JSA/mxm

Date: March 24, 2004

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